

## Lesson 28

# Acts through Revelation

Ages 4-5

Unit 6: The Promise of Heaven

(Preschool-Kindergarten)

## A Letter About Weakness

**Lesson Aim: To know that we are weak, but God is strong  
as explained in the letter to the Corinthians.**

PROPHETS AND PROMISES PART 1

THE WORSHIP, THE WORD & THE WAY

### THE WORSHIP

**Who God is:** The Spirit Who Shows Us

### THE WORD

**New Testament Letters:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5

**What He has done:** God gave His apostles the teaching about weakness.

### THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "God is mighty."

**Unit 6 Memory Verse:** Revelation 22:12

"Behold, I am coming soon."

**TEACHER ENRICHMENT** For your own encouragement this week, read Romans 8:22-27.

Teacher Prayer: "Thank you Lord, for Your Holy Spirit who shows Your power through our weakness. Help the children recognize Your power through their own weaknesses. Amen."

### TEACHER'S PREP

- ☐ Familiarize yourself with 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5
- ☐ Read Teacher's Guide and At-A-Glance.
- ☐ Place today's New Testament letter in the Bible. Place the Bible in the Mail Box.

### TEACHER TIP

Complete THE WORSHIP, THE WORD, THE WAY and Circle of Prayer. If time allows, choose a GOT TIME? activity or create your own activity to illustrate the Bible Story, the Aim or the Bible Memory Verse.

### PRESET

#### THE WELCOME

- ☐ Mailbox: Stamp or sticker of a heavy weight or barbell

#### THE WORSHIP

- ☐ Bible Memory Verse Song: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" and related music
- ☐ Puppet Script or Storybook Lesson 28

#### THE WORD

- ☐ Special Delivery Mailbox containing Teacher's Bible with today's New Testament Letter

#### THE WAY

- ☐ Craft Supplies: Crayons or markers, sturdy paper, scissors, tape or glue, bottle tops, drinking straw
- ☐ Game Supplies: Baby doll, baby care supplies
- ☐ Snack: Pretzel sticks or rods with any circle or ring shaped snack, and drink
- ☐ Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 6, Lesson 28

#### GOT TIME?

- ☐ Game Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse song and "Praise Time!" or "The New Testament Overture" and player, or teacher may sing, white balloons or soft toy balls, sturdy box or step
- ☐ Color This Story: A Letter to the Corinthians About Weakness. 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5
- ☐ Story Time: Any story about human weakness and God's power.



## 1. THE WELCOME

(Pre-service until class begins)

**"God is mighty."**

**SAY>** (As each child enters classroom) **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the mailbox to find today's special delivery.** (Child unlocks Mail Box to receive a stamp or sticker of heavy weights or a barbell.) **Let this sticker of a very heavy weight help you remember that we are weak but God is strong. Today's Whisper Verse is "God is mighty."** (Teach Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below.) **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

### **SIGN LANGUAGE: "God is mighty."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [commtechlab.msu.edu/Sites/aslweb/browser.htm](http://commtechlab.msu.edu/Sites/aslweb/browser.htm))

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:**

**"God"** The right hand begins in front of the face, then is lowered and slightly raised in front of the face with palm facing left and all five fingers together.

**"(is) mighty."** Create fists with both hands. Firmly pull both fists away from the chest in a manner to show that a person is strong.

**SAY>** (After all have arrived) **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** (Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.)

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

(Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.)

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "God is mighty" from Job 36:5a. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's New Testament letter.



## 2. THE WORSHIP: Praise Time!

(15 minutes)

### Worship The Spirit Who Shows Us

**\*Teacher Tip:** Play an opening song such as "Praise Time!" as children move to the place for praise songs, offering and puppet sketch. These activities help children identify time set aside for worship. Below are song suggestions to direct focus during Praise Time.

**SAY>** It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the Holy Spirit who shows us that we are weak, but God is strong. Let's sing a song to help us remember that. (Sing: "Jesus Loves Me.")

**SAY>** Even though we are weak, Jesus is mighty. Let's say our Whisper Verse one more time and then we can sing it! (Say Whisper Verse with hand motions: "He is mighty." Sing: "He Is Mighty".)

**SAY>** One way we can thank God for being mighty is by giving our offering. Let's listen to our new Bible Memory Verse Song as we give our offering to Him. (Play: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" as offering is collected.)

**SAY>** Today's letter from Paul says he did not have fancy words when he told others about Jesus. But the Holy Spirit used Paul's words to show them who Jesus was and what He had done for them. Paul teaches us that it is not by our own might or power that we help point people to Jesus, it is by the Holy Spirit's power! (Sing: "Not By Might.")

**SAY>** Now let's see if Posty has a letter to deliver today! (Read Chapter 28 from *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello: Prophets & Promises* or interact with puppets according to Prophets & Promises Lesson 28, Unit 5 Delbert & Lello puppet script.)

**SAY>** Even if you cannot read the Bible for yourself yet, you can tell Bible stories and show others that Jesus loves them. The Holy Spirit will help you just as He helped Paul. It is like shining your light to point the way to Jesus. (Sing: "I've Got The Joy/This Little Light Of Mine.")

#### **Unit 6 Prophets & Promises: Praise Time song suggestions**

**"Praise Time!"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"Behold, I Am Coming Soon"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"I Can Do Everything"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"Not By Might"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"He Is Mighty"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"The New Testament Overture"** Bible Memory Verse Song; [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

**"Jesus Loves Me"** ABC's of Praise by Mary Rice Hopkins

**"My God Is So Big"** ABC's of Praise by Mary Rice Hopkins

**"I've Got The Joy/This Little Light Of Mine"** ABC's of Praise by Mary Rice Hopkins

**"By And By, We're Gonna See The King"** Toddler Bible Songs, Cedarment KIDS Classic

**"Walking In The Light Of God's Love"** Brentwood Kids, Crazy Praize 2



### 3. THE WORD

(10 minutes)

Paul's letter says, "God's power is seen through our weakness."

**SAY>** Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our **CLASSROOM PROMISE**.

#### CLASSROOM PROMISE

**SAY TOGETHER>** With my eyes on my teacher; (Point to eyes.)  
My mouth quiet as can be, (Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.)  
I will listen to hear, (Cup hand around ear.)  
How God loves you and me. (Hug self, point to others and then self.)

**SAY>** In the Bible there are special letters written by believers to people like you and me. Last time we learned to keep our eyes on Jesus. In today's letter we'll learn we are weak, but God is strong. Let's open the mailbox to read today's letter from the Bible. (Choose a child to open the mailbox, take out the Bible and hand it to the leader or teacher.)



### **SPECIAL DELIVERY: 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-3, 5**

Open the Bible and remove today's New Testament Letter. Today's letter is available for download at [www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net) or you can create your own by writing the words in the box below on a piece of paper and placing it in an envelope. Open the letter and read the quote from today's New Testament letter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

When I came to you I didn't come with fancy words or great wisdom. I preached to you the truth about God's love. I made up my mind to pay attention to only one thing while I was with you. That one thing was Jesus Christ... When I came to you, I was weak and afraid and trembling all over... As I preached, the Holy Spirit showed His power. That was so you would believe not because of human wisdom but because of God's power.

From,  
Paul

**ASK>** When Paul visited his friends to tell them about Jesus, was he weak or strong? (Weak.) Let's find our answer in today's letter from the Bible. (Read answer from today's New Testament Letter.)

**ASK>** Who is mighty? (God.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "God is mighty." (Include sign language or hand motions.)



## 4. THE WAY

(20 minutes)

**We are weak, but He is strong.**

*Invite the children to circle area or centers for THE WAY: New Testament Letter application. Craft and games can be presented at the same time in centers, or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.*



## **CRAFT CONNECTION: MIGHTY GOD LETTER**

**"God is Mighty."**

**Purpose:** To remind the children that they are weak, but God is strong as explained in Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

**☑ Supplies needed per child:**

- ☐ Crayons or markers
- ☐ Sturdy paper
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tape or glue
- ☐ Bottle tops (or wheel-shaped pasta or round circles cut from sturdy paper or cardboard)
- ☐ Drinking straw (or pipe cleaner or wooden stick)

**☑ Prep Steps:** (Prepared before class)

- ☐ Pre-print the outline of a scroll so that it takes up the entire sheet of sturdy paper.
- ☐ Pre-print on the top of the scroll outline:

**A Letter to the Corinthians About Weakness.**

**1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5**

- ☐ Copy the scroll shape onto study paper. Cut out the scroll shape. Cut off the top of the scroll where the above title is printed.
- ☐ Tape the left edge of the cut-out scroll onto the left edge of the outlined scroll to create a flap.
- ☐ On the flap, pre-print or draw a picture of a young child unsuccessfully attempting to lift a weight.
- ☐ Below the picture, pre-print or write **"I am weak."**
- ☐ On the scroll outline underneath the flap, pre-print or draw a picture of Jesus holding up the child with one hand.
- ☐ Below the picture, pre-print or write **"Jesus is strong."**
- ☐ Cut a 3-inch length of straw.

**Directions for children:**

1. Color the picture of the child on the flap and the picture inside on the scroll to look like you.
2. Color the picture of Jesus holding you up.
3. Glue or tape a bottle top (round pasta piece or sturdy paper or cardboard circle) on each end of your straw (pipe cleaner or stick) to make a pretend barbell weight.
4. Tape or glue the barbell weight into Jesus' empty hand.

**Options:** Make an envelope: On a large envelope, write child's name as the address and "Paul" as the return address. Child can decorate the envelope before placing the letter inside.

**Craft Discussion:**

- **Our picture of Jesus shows Him holding you up and a very heavy weight. It shows that Jesus is very strong! That is just like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** (Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.)
- **Take your letter home and show it to your family. Ask them to help you make a special mailbox for your letters. Next time, we will make another letter for you to add to your mailbox.**

## THE WAY continued...



### **GAME: CARING FOR BABY**

**"God is Mighty." Job 36:5a**

**Purpose:** Children will realize that God is strong enough to care for them just like a parent cares for a helpless baby.

☒ **Supplies:**

☐ Baby doll

☐ Baby care supplies: blanket, bottle, pretend baby food and spoon, pretend diaper, etc.

**ASK>** (Hold the doll in your arms.) **Can babies do anything for themselves.** (No.) **Babies are very small and very weak. Who has a little brother or sister?** (Children respond.) **Who helps take care of the baby?** (Mom, Dad, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, siblings, etc.) **The baby needs lots of help because babies aren't strong.**

**Directions:**

1. Seat children on the floor in a circle.
2. Place the baby care supplies on the floor in the center of the circle.
3. Each child takes a turn holding the doll and choosing one way they are strong enough to care for the doll.

**SAY>** **You are much stronger than a baby. So, you are able to help the baby. God is much stronger than anyone or anything! He can take care of you and me and the whole world because He is mighty! That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it together.** (Say Whisper Verse with hand motions.)



### **GAME: DOWN IN THE WELL**

**"God is Mighty." Job 36:5a**

**Purpose:** Children will realize that God helps them when they are weak.

☒ **Supplies:** None

**SAY>** **Sometimes each one of us feels like we need help. God can help us because He is so mighty and strong.**

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle and hold hands to form the well.
2. Choose one child to sit in the center of the circle and pretend he or she is in the well.
3. **SAY>** **Oh no, name of child has fallen into the well!**
4. Child in the well says, **"I am weak, but He is strong!"**
5. Children forming the well release hands to sit down and say and sign, **"God is mighty!"**
6. Child in the well stands and shouts and signs, **"Yes! God is mighty!"**
7. Play again. Each time, choose a different child to be in the well.

## THE WAY continued...



### **SNACK: MIGHTY SNACK**

**"God is Mighty." Job 36:5a**

**Purpose:** Children will create mini barbell snacks to remind them God is mighty and strong.

**Snack Suggestion:** Pretzel sticks or rods, any circle or ring shaped snack (donut holes, licorice wheels, pretzel rings, etc.) and drink

#### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **SAY** > Let's sing the "Blessing Song." (Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.)

**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**

**Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**

3. Instruct children on how to place one circles or ring on either side of their pretzel stick or rod to create a mini barbell.
4. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **These pretend barbells are not very heavy, so it is easy for us to lift them and eat them!** (Demonstrate curing the "barbell" up to your mouth and taking a bite of the snack.)
  - **But sometimes, things feel like they are too heavy to lift or too hard to do. What is something that is hard for you to do?** (Respond.)
  - **When you are weak, God is strong. He made the earth and everything in it. He can do anything! Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** (Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "God is mighty.")
  - **When you feel weak, remember that God loves you and He is mighty!**



### **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

**SAY** > God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

**PRAY** > Dear God, thank you for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, (gently touch each child's shoulder while saying his or her name.) We pray for our families and friends. Thank you for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

*When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.*

#### **COMPLETED CRAFT**

Take home your "Mighty God" craft. Put it in your mailbox! Tell someone that you are weak, but God is strong.

#### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

(Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available.) **Show this card to your family. Talk about how God is so strong, He can take care of you.**

#### **SING**

Sing Bible Memory Verse Song: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or other Praise Time! songs.

#### **PLAY**

Visit, play and review lesson until it is time to dismiss.



## 5. GOT TIME?

If time remains, choose from these activities which connect to the lesson.



### GAME: MORE LETTER GAMES

**Purpose:** Children play games using today's New Testament Letter.

**☑ Supplies:**

- ☐ Today's New Testament Letter in an envelope.
- ☐ Song such as the Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise Time!" or "The New Testament Overture" and player, or teacher may sing

**Game #1 Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Sing or play a song, such as the Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise Time!" or "The New Testament Overture."
3. During the song, children pass the letter around the circle.
4. Stop the song. Whoever is holding the letter is the Messenger and delivers the letter to the teacher.
5. Play again. After all, or several, children have had a turn, read the letter.

**Game #2 Directions:**

1. Children spread out in a line or a large circle around the play area.
2. Give the letter to the first child. Child delivers the letter to the next child.
3. Each child delivers the letter to the next child until the last child delivers the letter to you.
4. Before each child starts his or her delivery, call out the method by which he/she must deliver the letter. (For example: hop, crawl, walk backwards, skip, dance, wiggle, etc.)
5. To create a fun atmosphere, play the Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time!" or "The New Testament Overture" during the game.

**SAY>** Imagine how excited the people were to get a letter from one of the disciples. Isn't it exciting to know that same letter is right here for us in the Bible?



Got Time? continued...



## **GAME: DANCE, DANCE BIBLE BOOKS**

**Purpose:** To familiarize children with the concept that the New Testament contains stories about Jesus and many letters from those who believe in Him.

**☑ Supplies:**

☐ "New Testament Overture" song and player, or teacher may sing

**SAY>** (Hold up the Bible.) **God gave us the Bible. The first part of the Bible is filled with true stories about God and His people. The second part of the Bible is filled with true stories about Jesus and letters from some of His followers.**

**Directions:**

1. Call out a New Testament book. Tell the children to listen carefully to the song. When they hear that book in the song, they must sit down as fast as they can.
2. Play "The New Testament Overture" or teacher may sing.
3. Children dance until they hear the Bible book in the song.
4. Children sit down in place.
5. Say the name of a different book and play again.



## **GAME: THROUGH THE CLOUDS**

**"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12**

**Purpose:** To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

**☑ Supplies:**

☐ Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song and player, or teacher may sing

☐ White balloons or soft toy balls

**☑ Prep Steps:**

☐ Inflate balloons with non-helium air.

**ASK>** **Where is Jesus?** (In heaven.) **One day Jesus is coming back. Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon." Let's pretend this balloon is a cloud. Look up to the balloon to pretend you see Jesus coming back through the clouds.**

**Directions:**

1. Play or sing the Bible Memory Verse Song.
2. Children bat the balloon in the air as they sing the song.
3. If the children are able to keep one balloon in the air without it hitting the floor, add another balloon.

**\*Teacher Tip:** For large groups of children, divide into smaller groups and allow each group to play with their own balloon.

Got Time? continued...



## **GAME: DOWN FROM HEAVEN**

**"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

**☑ Supplies:**

[ ] A sturdy box or step (no more than one foot in height)

**ASK** Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon." He is coming back from heaven! Let's pretend to be like Jesus. Jump down from heaven while you say Jesus' words.

**Directions:**

1. Place the box on the floor.
2. Have children line up behind the box.
3. One at a time, children jump off the box and say the Bible Memory Verse.
4. After jumping, child goes to the end of the line.
5. Play multiple times having children say the Bible Memory Verse different ways as they jump.  
(For example: shout, sing, whisper, etc.)



## **FAMILIAR FAVORITES**

### **COLOR THIS STORY**

Coloring sheet: A Letter to the Corinthians About Weakness. 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5  
Discuss Bible Story and play Bible Memory Verse Song as children color.

### **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about human weakness and God's power.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Review take-home Bible Study card.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 6, Lesson 28: A Letter About Weakness

**PONDER!** Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5 with your family. Paul wrote this letter to his friends in Corinth. Paul visited Corinth to tell his friends about Jesus. How did Paul feel when he was there? Who did Paul trust to help him when he was weak and afraid?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, help us when we are weak. Thank you for being so strong! Amen."

**PLAY!** Decorate a box to be your mailbox for your Letters from the Bible. Put today's craft inside your mailbox. During the week, take out your letter craft to remind your family about what we can learn from the letters in the Bible.

**Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse:** Revelation 22:12

"Behold, I am coming soon."